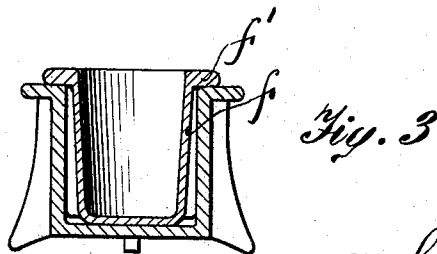
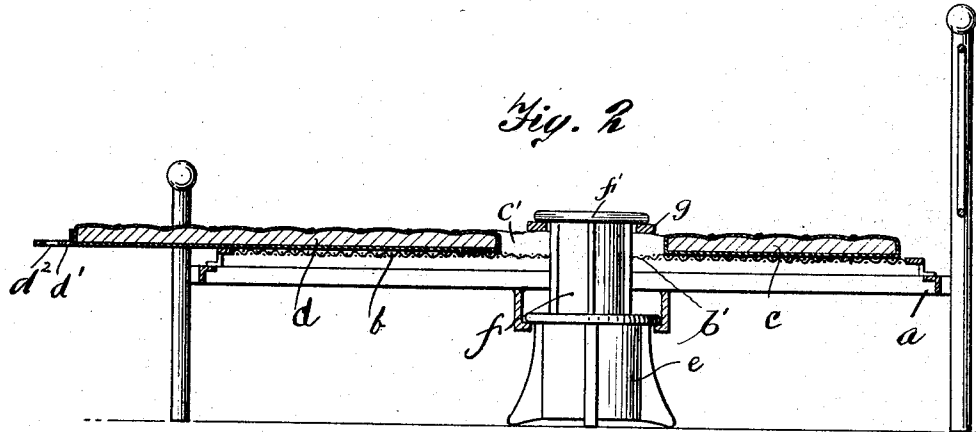
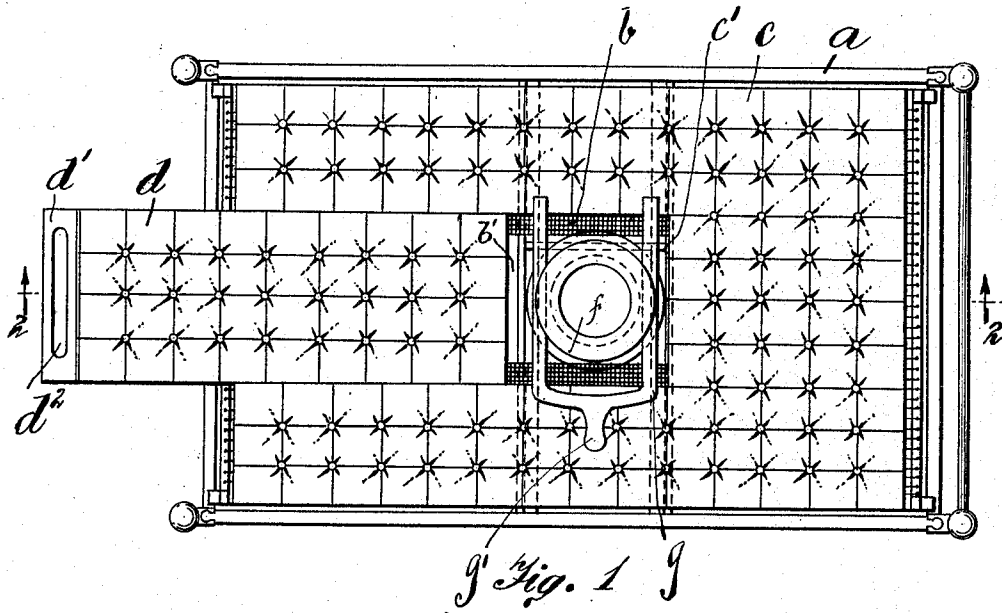


W. H. FITZ GERALD.
INVALID BED.
APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 29, 1917.

1,300,364.

Patented Apr. 15, 1919.



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INVALID-BED.

1,300,364.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTER H. FITZ GERALD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Invalid-Beds, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention relates to invalid beds and has for its object to provide a bed with means for the support of a bed pan so that an invalid may be handled with great facility and as little annoyance as possible.

Another object of this invention is to provide a bed of this class improved and simplified in its construction whereby the cost thereof will be considerably reduced and be within the reach of the general public.

A still further object is to provide a construction which can be readily applied to any existing bed without requiring any material changes thereof.

With these and other objects in view my invention consists in the construction, combination, and arrangement of parts as will be hereinafter fully described and set forth in the appended claims.

Reference is had to the accompanying drawing in which similar characters denote corresponding parts and in which Figure 1 is a plan view of my improved bed; Fig. 2 is a partial longitudinal section on line 2-2 of Fig. 1; and Fig. 3 is a sectional view of the commode and bed pan contained therein.

The bed *a* is of ordinary or conventional construction with a spring *b* constituting the bed bottom and *c* a mattress resting on the spring.

My invention consists substantially in the particular construction of the bed bottom and of the mattress, and in the combination thereof with means for the support of a bed pan so that the invalid may use the bed pan without the necessity of being lifted or shifted from one place to another. To this end, the spring *b* is provided with a cut out portion *b*¹ of rectangular shape and arranged substantially in the center thereof. The mattress *c* is also provided with a cut out portion *c*¹ of similar shape but somewhat wider than the opening *b*¹ in the spring and extending from the inner or head end of the opening *b*¹ to the rear end of the mattress. The cut in the mattress extends throughout the entire thickness of the same and forms

an opening which normally is adapted to be closed by a mattress section *d* which is adapted to slidably fit in the cut out portion *c*¹ and is made of a length equal to the latter. At its outer or rear end the section *d* may be provided with an extension *d*¹ formed with a groove or opening *d*² to serve as a grasp or handle whereby the section *d* can be manipulated when it is desired to displace it in order to uncover the openings *b*¹, *c*¹ for the insertion of the pan to be described.

It is, of course, understood that instead of arranging the cut out portion to extend and the mattress section *d* to slide longitudinally of the mattress the same may be arranged transversely of the bed.

By reason of the opening *b*¹ in the spring being somewhat smaller in width than that of the opening *c*¹ in the mattress the spring will form ledges *b*² on which the mattress section *d* in closed position will rest and whereby it will be properly supported. *e* indicates a commode of any suitable construction and which is to contain the bed pan *f*. This commode may be suitably supported by the bed bottom or loosely placed under the bed to be in range with the openings *b*¹, *c*¹. The same consists of a substantially cylindrical receptacle open on its top and in which a pan of similar shape is suitably and removably supported. The pan is provided at its open end with an annular flange *f*¹ which in circumference is so admeasured as to pass through the openings *b*¹, *c*¹. The pan may also be provided with vertical ribs around its outer circumference, which may slidably engage corresponding guide grooves made on the inner face of the commode, the pan and commode in height being so admeasured that when the pan *f* is lifted into the opening *c*¹ of the mattress, the said vertical ribs at their lower ends will remain in engagement with said grooves of the commode so that after use the pan upon being released from the fork *g* will, by its own gravity, slide vertically back into its lowered position.

In order to support the pan in position of use within the opening *c*¹ of the mattress I provide a bifurcated member *g* which when placed across the openings *b*¹, *c*¹ will rest with its ends on the parts of the mattress extending at the sides of the opening thereof and which member is capable of engaging the pan below the flange *f*¹ as shown in Fig.

1 so that the pan will be suspended by its flange from said member. The member *g* has a grasp *g*¹ whereby it can be conveniently handled.

5 It will be evident that this structure can be readily applied to any existing type of beds without requiring any changes in the construction thereof excepting to cut the bed bottom and the mattress and providing a
10 mattress section to slidably fit in the cut out portion of the mattress.

Since various changes may be made in the construction without deviating from the principle of my invention, I do not wish to
15 be understood as limiting myself to the details described and shown.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. In an invalid bed, a mattress having a
20 cut out portion, a section slidably fitting in said cut out portion, the latter forming an opening extending all the way through the thickness of the mattress, a bed pan having a flange, and a fork-shaped member to be

placed across said opening and adapted to
engage said flange to hold said pan in position while in use.

2. In an invalid bed, a mattress having an opening extending throughout its thickness, a commode below said bed, a bed pan vertically movable within said commode and adapted when in use to be lifted into said opening and a fork-shaped member adapted to extend across said opening and engage and hold said pan in lifted position.

3. In an invalid bed, a bed bottom having an opening, a mattress having an opening larger in width than that of said bed bottom, and a mattress section slidably fitting in said mattress opening and resting on the
40 ledges formed by the edges of the opening in said bed bottom.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

WALTER H. FITZ GERALD.

Witnesses:

ROBERT R. VELLE,

HARRY A. ZERGHANE.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."